

CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Room 1131, Resources Building

(1) SWRCB Update

San Joaquin Flow and South Delta salinity

The SWRCB tentatively plans to hold a workshop regarding the technical basis for evaluating different alternatives for San Joaquin River flow and south Delta salinity objectives. A public notice will be issued prior to the workshop which is currently scheduled for mid-December 2010. At the workshop, the SWRCB does not intend to identify the precise alternatives to be evaluated during the environmental review process. Instead the workshop will focus on the scientific basis and technical methodology for evaluating alternatives. Accordingly, the workshop will not be the final opportunity to comment on potential objectives.

Modeling

DWR and USBR are providing modeling assistance (per the revised CDO conditions) to the SWRCB in the following areas;

- DWR has developed a plan to improve DSM2 salinity simulation results in the south Delta and submitted it to the SWRCB, who is reviewing the plan.
- DWR is providing model runs to evaluate potential improvements to flows and salinity in the south Delta by modifying the barrier configuration and operation.
- USBR is working on the development of a scope of work to evaluate alternative flow objectives for the San Joaquin River at Vernalis. The scope of work is still in development.

Water Transfer Petitions

Transfer Notice – A Notice was issued for the long-term transfer of 10 TAF from DWR to Westlands. The petitioner has requested the changes be effective from May 11, 2011 to April 30, 2027.

Pending Order – The comment period for the Consolidated Place of Use petitioned by USBR and DWR ended in mid-October. The changes are intended to facilitate three specific transfers/exchanges involving a total of up to 22 TAF/year. The SWRCB is reviewing the order and expects to issue an order in November.

(2) Fishery Status

Salmonids and sturgeon (B. Byrne) – *Winter-Run*: Preliminary carcass surveys indicate that the run this year will likely be between 1500 and 2000 this year. Once DFG estimates the number of adults, NMFS will calculate a juvenile production estimate (JPE) for the purposes of quantifying the incidental take limit for winter-run at the pumping facilities. Passage of juvenile winter-run past the Red Bluff Diversion Dam peaked from mid-September to mid-October. Total numbers are comparable to those in 2007 and 2008. *Spring Run*: Preliminary reports indicate that the escapement for spring-run may be up relative to 2009, but still not at the levels seen in the early 2000's. *Central Valley steelhead*: No fish have been salvaged yet for the 2010-2011 fish salvage season. *Green Sturgeon*: No fish have been salvaged yet for the 2010-2011 fish salvage season.

Delta smelt and longfin smelt – Nothing to report.

(3) Work Groups

DOSS meetings started in mid-September. No “triggers” per Bi Op hit yet. Watching Knights Landing salvage per Bi Op. Also DOSS is preparing a technical report for the Science Panel review now scheduled for November 8 and 9.

(4) Water Project Operations

CVP – 6000 cfs at Keswick, 2000 cfs at Folsom, 1000 cfs at Goodwin, 4100 cfs at Jones P.P., Federal share of San Luis = 450 TAF

SWP – 2450 cfs at Oroville, 5000 cfs at Clifton Court, State share of San Luis = 421 TAF, Freeport approx. 14,000 cfs, Vernalis approx. 2000 cfs and E/I ratio approx. .60